

confidence. As a matter of courtesy to that body, recognizing them as the law-makers in authority (and as such we respect them), and in confronting this position that, to my mind, as I said before, is a very serious one, it is necessary for us to have the confidence of every man, woman and child, that we may faithfully serve the public.

With regard to the newspaper notoriety, you may form your own opinions as to the wisdom of publishing anything on the subject or not. The policy of the Board has been to watch every case of sickness that has been reported to it, to make a post-mortem of every death, every body that has been reported by persons who applied for burial permits; and where we found them unattended, a post-mortem examination has been made of every case for no other purpose than to determine the cause of death, always having in mind a possibility of the recurrence of the disease that we suffered under last year. Legitimate discussion will be in order this afternoon, but as I said before, I wish to state the position of the Board of Health plainly to the press and plainly to the Legislature.

We are willing to do our duty from start to finish; we are willing to serve the public as we are doing today, free, without compensation; we are willing to do all that is required of any man, and I submit to you as man to man that when an intelligent press comes out and villifies honest men, slanders them by the articles that were written within the past few days, betraying their confidence altogether, forcing them to make a statement that they were reluctant to make for no other reason than to protect this country, I submit that any reasonable, fair-minded man would take exceptions to it; and I have been given to understand that several of my friends here, members of the Board of Health, have tendered their resignations to the Governor.

We want to state plainly that if we have your confidence we will work, and work earnestly. If we have not your confidence, if you are going to throw mud at us, if you are going to vilify us, or report or give the public the impression that we are going to put our hands in people's pockets, we are going to step down and out and give you an open door and the privilege of appointing those that you have confidence in.

Dr. Carmichael: You saw that case on Thursday last, did you?

Dr. Carmichael: I saw it.

Dr. Dole: Friday night.

Dr. Raymond: Friday night. You are the representative of the United States Government, are you not?

Dr. Carmichael: I am.

Dr. Raymond: In the Marine Hospital Service?

Dr. Carmichael: Yes; chief quarantine officer.

Dr. Raymond: May I ask what your attitude will be with regard to this case, or what you think of that case, or what your diagnosis was in the case, or what you suspected of being the cause of death?

Dr. Carmichael: I was called to see the case, to attend the post-mortem, rather, about half past eight Friday evening. I went out there in company with Dr. Wood, Dr. Hoffmann, Dr. Mays and Dr. Pratt. After the post-mortem examination and the hasty staining and examining of the samples that we took from the spleen glands, the opinion was general that it was very suspicious, and the post-mortem appearances were identical with the cases we had last year. Of course, it will be wise to withhold a positive opinion until you hear from the cultures that were planted that night, and I think after that that a decision can be very readily reached.

Now as to the attitude: If there is ONLY ONE SPORADIC CASE, THERE WILL BE NO RESTRICTIVE MEASURES WHATSOEVER. The case, as I understand it (I have kept in touch with Dr. Pratt), has been handled very carefully. The woman was removed to the Japanese Hospital. Her surroundings were removed and disinfected not once, but three times. Am I right?

Dr. Pratt: Yes, sir.

Dr. Carmichael: And the place where she lodged, and the hospital, has been thoroughly disinfected and the body was removed with my permission to the quarantine island and cremated. Now that disposes of the case so far as we know. If there are no more cases, there will be no more action taken by me, and there will be no quarantine restrictions placed upon the port.

There is a statement in the Republican this morning totally unauthorized by me, that I had threatened to quarantine the port of Honolulu if you announce that case as one of bubonic plague. I can tell you honestly, gentlemen, that I never said any such thing. I never made any such statement of that character to anybody.

Dr. Raymond: You all understand Dr. Carmichael's remarks; that he is inclined to treat us fairly; he is inclined to do all in his power to assist us. In every way, and as I stated a moment ago, if this question is given undue publicity and the country suffers and the commerce of the country suffers, it will be the fault of the press. If we are confronted with the serious condition of affairs, it will be necessary for the Legislature to consider the matter, the way that it should be. It will be necessary for us to have means of combating the disease, and it is for that reason that I called you here this afternoon, to acquaint you with the case, the emergency, and to inform you that so far as the Board of Health goes, we stand ready to do our duty; but, if, as I said a moment ago, we do not have the confidence of you gentlemen, why we are willing to give way to those in whom you have more confidence.

The policy of the Board of Health in this matter will be to disregard altogether the undue criticism of the press of publicity, so far as the work of the Board goes; it would not influence us in any way; we will do our duty as long as we are in the office. But I ask the question, what good is it going to do this country for the press to resort to vilification, to throw mud at the Board of Health? I am talking plainly, man to man, with every one of you.

Now, our policy will be to work hard in every instance to prevent any sort of contagion and prevent any undue alarm that may be caused, and that is as far as we care to go in the matter, as far as we will go. It is up to you.

Dr. Pratt suggested the conference the other evening. The Board of Health is not disposed to advertise the working of the Department in order, as I say, to give any chance for undue criticism or alarm. The matter was reported to them, and the findings were such as to make them suspicious that they were right, and they had no desire whatever to have the matter published in the papers until they were called to account by the members of the press (certain members of the press), and they were requested, and finally consented to compromise, you may term it, by signing an article or statement, which these cases were suspicious, which was done in good faith and which called forth abuse from one of them. Now, personally, I do not propose to be a target for the press or any one else.

Mr. George W. Smith: Mr. President, with your permission I would like to make a statement how that appeared in the papers over the signatures of the Board. The Board was in session, a telephone message was received from one of the newspapers. A reporter desired all the information possible on the subject and was told that we did not care to give any publicity to it. We were then told that the newspapers had some information and intended to publish it.

Dr. Pratt was sent out to do what he could to prevent it, and it resulted in a conference with the representatives of the members of the press, and we were told that they had nearly the full information; that it was on the street; that more than a hundred people knew it; that it would be around in the morning anyway in the form of rumors, and that the proprietor of one of the papers had stated that the matter was to be published and not ignored. The suggestion for a statement over the signatures of the members of the Board of Health came from the representatives of the press. They stated they would withhold publication of any other matter provided we would furnish them a statement over our own signatures, of the actual conditions. The Board of Health considered the matter carefully, the statement was prepared carefully, and they signed it, the idea being to assure the community that there was not an epidemic; that they had the matter full in hand, and to state plainly to them that there was merely a suspicious case. For that the Board has been abused; members of the Board, personally, by people who did not understand it or did not care to understand it, and it has also been abused and misrepresented by one of the newspapers of the City, at least; I will say, two. There was no abuse in the third paper, but a misstatement of facts, throwing blame on the Board for having made any statement whatever without having first confirmed it. No positive statement was made by the Board, as can be seen by any one who will carefully read the papers of Friday morning. They will see that it was intended to give information to the public of an authentic nature.

Governor Dole: I understand in San Francisco the newspapers agreed not to publish anything on the subject when there was plague there. I do not suppose that is possible here; it is not the way we have been accustomed to do. We have been frank with the public, but would it not be a good plan if the newspapers would only agree to it—I don't know but what they would—to take all their information from the Board, and for the Board to agree to furnish them with such information when there is anything to furnish and that they will publish nothing else. I think if that agreement could be arrived at it would be a very good thing; it would be the best thing that we could reach.

Mr. W. G. Smith: Mr. Chairman, as I was present at the interview with the other night representing one of the papers, I should like to say something on the side of the press of our connection with it. Before leaving the office I wrote an editorial on the events of Friday night, stating in my pocket, wishing to confer with some of you gentlemen with regard to it. It touches some of the points in controversy, and with your permission I should like to read it, saying that it is an editorial, the subject to revision possibly, and some of the points might be profitably discussed here.

(Here followed the editorial printed elsewhere in this issue.)

Now, gentlemen, we were not disposed to make a sensation of this matter. Had we wished to indulge in yellow journalism, we surely had the opportunity, and we had plenty of material for the purpose. Instead of that, we asked for a calm, impartial statement from the Board of Health which, as we say, would take the matter beyond the realm of conjecture. Now, there are many correspondents here of the Eastern press, of the Coast press, who are paid by the space they occupy, paid by the column, and who will write whether the press here keeps silent or not. The correspondents, most of whom are not known to the public as correspondents, will have their say, and it will be here like at San Francisco; the news was kept silent there, but the Sacramento papers, the New York papers, the Honolulu papers, all had the news and the news. Now, I think I can say, for our end of it, the Advertiser, at least, it is willing to do all it can to keep this town from being hurt. It has not yet made any sensation of the matter, and I do not think it will have any reason to make a sensation of it hereafter. We cannot answer for the correspondents. We think a reasonable publication of the news is best; it causes people to watch their servants' condition, to keep an eye on their neighbors, and it puts every one on the quiver for a case of suspicious sickness. I offer these simply as points of view of the press and ask you, are they not reasonable?

Mr. Rhodes: Mr. Chairman, may I be permitted? Something has been said here that the San Francisco papers kept the plague quiet, said nothing about it, that that was their attitude. Now that was not the whole attitude of the San Francisco press of San Francisco. The attitude there was this: The press of cases which the Board of Health there declared to be plague. Not only the newspapers of San Francisco, but the Chamber of Commerce and every public and quasi public body joined in the conspiracy to bulldoze and did bulldoze the Board of Health until they were unable to find any more plague cases and there has been no plague there or no possibility for the newspapers to say anything about plague because the Board of Health could not find any, they did not dare to say that a conspiracy of silence because, as Mr. Smith has pointed out, the conspiracy or silence was bound to fail. Not only the agencies that he has spoken of, of the Sacramento paper, the Honolulu paper, the New York and all other papers, and there are 300,000 people in San Francisco, a great many of whom can write, a great many of whom would write, and a great many of whom wrote to Honolulu to persons here that there was plague. I myself have received letters and seen others which stated that there were on an average a half a dozen cases of plague a day in San Francisco. It is the same here; there are 40,000 people here and a large number of them can write. Supposing the newspapers here said nothing, and the correspondents of whom Mr. Smith has spoken said nothing, what would be the result? The very next morning we would take anywhere from fifty to five hundred letters every one of them would tell about the plague, and people, too, going. Every one of those letters will find publicity somewhere, either through San Francisco or the papers big or little or by word of mouth scattered around, and the conspiracy of silence here or in San Francisco, or any other place, must fail; and the smaller the place, the more impossible the conspiracy of silence. San Francisco handled the situation not by any conspiracy of silence, but by an effort in which the papers were a small factor, by which the Board of Health did not find a case of plague, and they could not find any. Every diagnosis of plague was denied vigorously, frequently, repeatedly, and Dr. Kinyoun, the Federal quarantine officer there, against whom some suggestions have been said, was his position. He could not find any plague, because he had other duties; he could not be looking for it. The Board of Health gave him no assistance.

Dr. Carmichael: Excuse me, I want to correct you there. All the suspect cases were sent to him and slides and cultures were sent to him. He had to rely upon the Board of Health.

Mr. Rhodes: He had to rely upon the Board of Health, which reaches the point I want to make. In San Francisco the matter was handled not by a conspiracy of silence, such as is proposed here. And I would like also to suggest that they have had plague in Glasgow; they have had plague now in Cape Town; they have had plague in Hongkong; they have it in the East; and I do not think that we have had plague in London, at least the telegrams announcing it have been read there. They have had plague in a great

many places, but there don't seem to have been any great bother. I have not heard of anybody coming from Glasgow being quarantined. Certainly the system in Sydney, as we know, was not the system that interfered with commerce and travel. That it did here, I do not intend to criticize or make any statement on that subject; I simply want to point out that the San Francisco handling of the matter was not a conspiracy of silence.

Dr. Raymond: I happened to be in San Francisco at the time, and was present at the meeting of the Academy of Medicine, and heard the report and took part in the discussion on the subject of plague in San Francisco, and examined slides and specimens, and I beg to differ with you on the point, as you call it, the conspiracy part of it. The Board of Health did all in their power to expose those cases, not only at the meeting that I attended personally, taking part in the discussion, but in every way that they possibly could, and the Governor of California in consultation with the editors of the papers of San Francisco agreed, with the exception of one, and that was the Examiner, to suppress the whole matter. I happen to know that.

Mr. George W. Smith: There is no conspiracy of silence here, as the gentleman seems to infer. What we wished to do was to keep the information out of the paper until a positive diagnosis was made.

Dr. Raymond: Not in the least.

Mr. Rhodes: Do not understand me as criticizing the acts of the Board of Health Friday night.

Dr. Emerson (to Dr. Raymond): You were not here Saturday morning. I was the only other member not present at that meeting, but from what I have heard (I have heard full reports of the meeting), and with the views of the Board as represented there, I am in full sympathy. I endorse what they did, and the final action. I have no doubt the votes would have been unanimous. From my long acquaintance with the different members of the Board I have acquired such confidence in them that I always feel as if it was a very unusual thing; it is the fact that it is a very unusual thing to disagree, not only in fact, but in opinion in regard to the questions that have been decided, and therefore I desire to state that I agree entirely with the action of the Board taken at that time. I thought this statement was due from one who was not present at that meeting.

Mr. Hoogs: On behalf of the Star, I state by authority for the paper from what I have listened to here today and from your words and Mr. Smith's words, it appears that the Board of Health seems to have a little fight on fact, but in opinion in regard to the questions that have been decided, and therefore I desire to state that I agree entirely with the action of the Board taken at that time. I thought this statement was due from one who was not present at that meeting.

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plague. I wish to have the news accurately, with the stamp of the Board of Health upon the statement which would be made as to the sanitary and hygienic condition of the town. Now, are you willing to consider the idea of issuing a bulletin for the afternoon press, and a bulletin about 9 o'clock for the benefit of the morning press? In that way (I speak for our paper), we will be satisfied.

Dr. Emerson: I wish to state that anticipating this very point, I wrote out this little motion, which I will read and offer as a motion.

Dr. Raymond: The Board is not in regular session; this is merely a conference.

Mr. Emerson: It can be taken as the sense of the Board. That a daily bulletin be furnished by the Board of Health, stating the situation as regards the public health.

Mr. Dole: I offer an amendment, Mr. President, in the form suggested by the Editor of the Advertiser, that a semi-daily bulletin be furnished to accommodate the evening press and the morning press.

Dr. Emerson: I will accept that amendment.

Mr. Hoogs: The Star will be perfectly willing to join in a proposition of that kind, but as a concession to us we would prefer to have a bulletin at as late an hour as possible. Something might happen between 12 and 2 that we would not want to miss. I would be only too glad to join in on a proposition with the understanding that you people would put the matter in the hands of a man who would not dismiss it with four lines every day.

Dr. Raymond: I do not see any reason why that suggestion should not be carried out. I am satisfied that the disposition of the Board will be to do everything in its power to enlighten the press upon all points from time to time.

Senator Baldwin: Mr. President, I have been a little surprised at the remarks you made on the Legislature. I have just talked with some of the members of the House, and I am familiar with what is going on in the Senate, and I have not heard of any feeling of distrust of the present Board of Health. Those I have spoken to here have not heard anything of that sort. There is, as I understand, a bill in the House to reorganize the Board of Health. At such a time as this I am sure the feeling of the Legislature would be to support the Board as long as they attend to their duty. First of all, it is the health of the country, keeping any epidemic of this sort away from the large number of working people throughout the Islands who have been brought here, that we have to look out for carefully, and who cannot take care of themselves; then, next after the health of the community, our situation is such and our industries are such that we have to guard carefully the question of our foreign commerce. Now, I speak of that simply in connection with newspaper work, and say that I consider that the truth should be adhered to.

Mr. W. R. Farrington: There have been some remarks made here regarding an agreement by the press to do thus and so. I would like to state here for the Bulletin that the Bulletin will not enter into any agreement with any paper or any Board of Health or any organization of this Government to print or not to print any matter. Our attitude towards this was plain Saturday evening. We published nothing because we did not consider we were justified in publishing anything until the facts were known whether the case were plague or not. And so far as I have ever had any connection with the Board of Health here, in newspaper capacity, I have never had any trouble in getting facts from the Board if they came to the right source.

So far as issuing bulletins are concerned, that would be of assistance, but I should consider if I sent a man up here to the Secretary and asked him if there was anything new in the line of plague matter, and he said no, I should take his word for it, as I would that of the board. And I see no reason for publishing bulletins myself for this reason, that until this case is decided to be a case of plague it gives an undue importance to the affair.

Dr. Emerson renewed his suggestion about bulletins, and when the meeting adjourned it was understood that they would be issued.

At a meeting of Leahi Chapter No. 2, Order of the Eastern Star, on Saturday evening, held at the Masonic Temple, the following officers were installed: Mrs. L. T. Grant, Worthy Matron; L. T. Grant, Patron; Mrs. C. L. Crabbe, Assistant Matron; Mrs. J. S. Melampy, Secretary; Mrs. J. Evans, Treasurer; Mrs. H. Williams, Conductor; Mrs. Theodore Hoffmann, Assistant Conductor; Mrs. Webster, Adah; Mrs. J. Rothwell, Ruth; Mrs. Faser, Martha; Mrs. Howard, Electa; Mrs. Ready, Warder; John T. Tucker, Sentinel; Mrs. Galbraith, Marshal, and Miss Ella Dayton, Organist. After the officers for the following year had been duly installed the members of the order repaired to where refreshments were awaiting and enjoyed a pleasant and social time.

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